



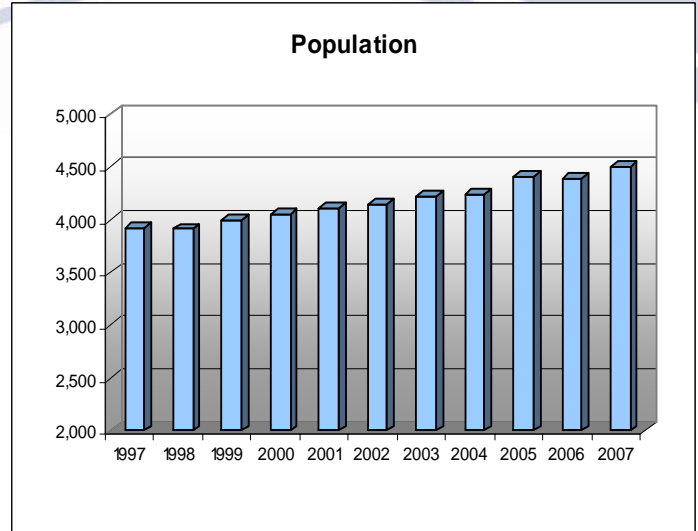
# Lincoln County

October 2008

## Work Force Trends

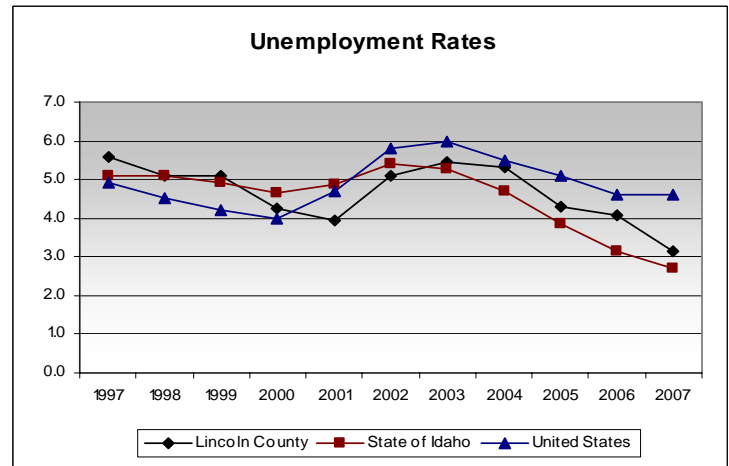
### Population

Lincoln County' population has grown steadily in the last 10 years at a rate of 15 percent and has kept pace with the growth in the rest of south central Idaho. The city of Shoshone, gateway to the Sun Valley area, is the county seat. Lincoln County continues to rely on agriculture, and several dairies have started up in the last decade as part of the overall growth of dairies in the region. Glanbia Foods has a cheese processing facility in Richfield, 14 miles east of Shoshone. Shoshone is close enough to Twin Falls and the Wood River Valley to serve as a bedroom community for workers to commute to those areas. Affordable housing continues to be an issue in the Wood River Valley so subdivisions and residential construction continues to be an ongoing commitment in Shoshone. Sustainable growth is expected.



### Labor Force & Employment

The seasonally adjusted unemployment rate has been a roller coaster over the past 10 years from peaks of 5.6 percent in 1997 and 2003 to a record low of 3.2 percent in 2007. There has been some diversification in the economy and creation of new jobs, primarily in the service sector. Dairies have brought some stability to the seasonal nature of the resort and seasonal agricultural jobs. Several new convenience stores that serve Sun Valley-bound tourists have done well in Shoshone. Dairy commodities have been strong and the cheese processing jobs in Richfield have been very stable. Shoshone serves as a bedroom community to workers who commute both to the Twin Falls area and the Wood River Valley area for construction, landscaping and service jobs. The primary crops grown in the county are hay, grains, corn and other crops that can be green chopped for dairy cow consumption. The regional headquarters of the U.S. Bureau of

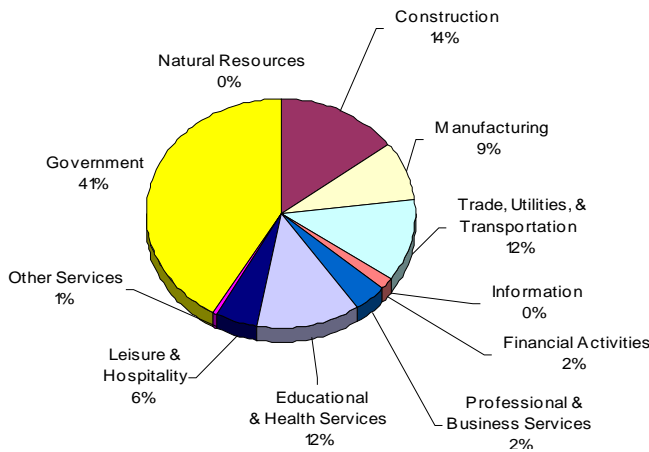


Labor Force	Sep 2007	Sep 2008
Civilian Labor Force	2,473	2,471
Total Employment	2,398	2,327
Unemployed	76	144
% of Labor Force Unemployed	3.1	5.8
State of Idaho % Unemployed	2.7	5.0
U.S. % Unemployed	4.7	6.1

Land Management is located in Shoshone, and much of southern Idaho fire crew coordination takes place there. Residential construction is ongoing in Lincoln County where the building of affordable housing for those workers in the Wood River Valley is a priority. The surrounding small communities are all seeing interest in new housing. The continued outlook for Lincoln County is for steady growth as more people move to Shoshone as a gateway to Sun Valley and a commuting community for the Twin Falls, Jerome and Gooding areas.

Labor Force	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Civilian Labor Force	1,818	1,845	1,870	2,198	2,231	2,288	2,266	2,322	2,400	2,551	2,517
Unemployment	101	94	96	94	88	116	124	123	103	104	79
% of Labor Force Unemployed	5.6	5.1	5.1	4.3	3.9	5.1	5.5	5.3	4.3	4.1	3.2
Employment	1,717	1,751	1,774	2,104	2,143	2,172	2,142	2,198	2,297	2,447	2,438

## Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2007



## Wages & Income

Per capita income in Lincoln County has grown steadily with an increase of 34 percent from 1997 to 2006. Lincoln County still ranks low in comparison to other counties, coming in 34<sup>th</sup> out of Idaho's 44 counties, but it is moving up. Much can be attributed to the types of service and agricultural jobs primarily based out of Lincoln County and these jobs tend to pay somewhat lower wages. Growth in both jobs and wages is projected for Lincoln County based on new residential construction and cheese manufacturing that shows promise for future expansion and has added diversification to the economy.

### Major Employers

4 Brothers Dairy  
 AHS of Idaho  
 Big Wood Canal Company  
 Glanbia, Inc.  
 Northwest Bec dba Shoshone Living Center  
 U.S. Bureau of Land Management  
 Valley Coop

### Occupational Wages\*

### Starting Wage

Teachers	\$14.57
Bookkeepers	\$8.91
Cashiers	\$6.21
School Custodians	\$10.16
Cheese Processors	\$9.23
Receptionists	\$8.87
Fire Fighters	\$12.68
Milkers	\$9.90
General Farm Labor	\$6.79
Construction Labor	\$11.52

\* Additional occupational wage data can be found on the Idaho Department of Labor Web site at [lmi.idaho.gov](http://lmi.idaho.gov).

Covered Employment & Average Annual Wages Per Job for 1997, 2006, & 2007	1997		2006		2007	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
<b>Total Covered Wages</b>	1,026	\$18,397	1,370	\$27,169	1,438	\$27,812
<b>Agriculture</b>	101	\$16,723	206	\$23,598	203	\$25,129
<b>Mining</b>	*	*	*	*	0	\$0
<b>Construction</b>	38	\$15,843	140	\$26,482	187	\$28,072
<b>Manufacturing</b>	*	*	103	\$43,246	110	\$46,706
<b>Trade, Utilities &amp; Transportation</b>	144	\$11,329	125	\$18,570	130	\$18,930
<b>Information</b>	*	*	*	*	0	\$0
<b>Financial Activities</b>	10	\$14,185	15	\$13,213	21	\$12,841
<b>Professional and Business Services</b>	9	\$20,359	48	\$29,100	48	\$24,830
<b>Educational and Health Services</b>	92	\$16,662	170	\$22,385	163	\$24,248
<b>Leisure and Hospitality</b>	56	\$7,290	53	\$10,682	64	\$8,687
<b>Other Services</b>	6	\$12,676	8	\$22,225	8	\$23,910
<b>Government</b>	502	\$21,926	502	\$31,319	505	\$31,543

Per Capita Income	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
<b>Lincoln County</b>	\$17,206	\$19,122	\$20,074	\$20,193	\$21,085	\$20,853	\$20,097	\$22,154	\$21,576	\$23,031
<b>State of Idaho</b>	\$20,648	\$21,789	\$22,786	\$24,077	\$25,024	\$25,221	\$25,524	\$27,361	\$28,301	\$29,920
<b>United States</b>	\$25,334	\$26,883	\$27,939	\$29,843	\$30,574	\$30,821	\$31,504	\$33,123	\$34,757	\$36,714

Information provided by U.S. Census Bureau



This county is served by the office listed below:  
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[labor.idaho.gov](http://labor.idaho.gov)

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